

## PRESS RELEASE

### MR. BARRY M. JACKSON SELECTED AS PROGRAMME MANAGER OF THE GLOBAL SANITATION FUND

**Geneva, 13 August 2008 - Mr. Barry M. Jackson, a British national with extensive experience in sanitation and in pro-poor financing for development, was announced today as the first Programme Manager of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council's (WSSCC) new financing mechanism, the Global Sanitation Fund (GSF).**

Mr. Jackson will join WSSCC in September after 19 years at the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA). At DBSA, he served in several capacities, most recently as a senior policy analyst specialising in water supply and sanitation policy, municipal infrastructure finance and institutional development.

"The Collaborative Council is pleased to welcome such a senior and respected professional to its team," said Mr. Jon Lane, WSSCC's Executive Director. "Barry's long experience in water and sanitation, together with his proven track record in innovative and creative financing which involves public and private actors and serves the poor, will contribute greatly to the success of the Global Sanitation Fund. With 2.5 billion people living daily with the dire consequences of poor or non-existent sanitation, the need for the GSF is greater than ever."

Launched by WSSCC in March, the Global Sanitation Fund is the world's first financing mechanism specifically for sanitation and hygiene. It aims to support national efforts to help larger numbers of poor people attain sustainable access to basic sanitation and good hygiene practices. The GSF is currently starting work in Madagascar, Nepal and Uganda, to be followed shortly by Burkina Faso, India, Pakistan and Senegal.

"Of the many aspects of my professional life, my work in community sanitation has always been the most rewarding," said Mr. Jackson, 59. "I believe that this new position with WSSCC is an opportunity to use much of my professional experience to date: as sanitation adviser, policy analyst and project manager responsible for international grants and loans. I foresee that the biggest challenges of the job will be to identify promising approaches to improving sanitation in areas where progress has been slow, and then to make available the most appropriate form of financial support that will catalyse a significant acceleration in both behavioural change and sanitation coverage."

He added that "it was an inspired move by WSSCC to set up a fund dedicated to sanitation and related programmes so that decision-makers throughout the developing world might be inspired to take the challenge seriously and commit resources to help people to help themselves towards better hygiene and sanitation."



Mr. Barry M. Jackson

(more)

# WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION COLLABORATIVE COUNCIL

CONSEIL DE CONCERTATION POUR L'APPROVISIONNEMENT EN EAU ET L'ASSAINISSEMENT  
CONSEJO DE COLABORACION PARA EL ABASTECIMIENTO DE AGUA Y SANEAMIENTO



As Programme Manager, Mr. Jackson will manage the further development and operation of the GSF, reaching out to existing and potential donors and working closely with partners and governments where the GSF is being implemented.

Mr. Jackson brings a wealth of experience to the position. Much of his policy work has contributed to important government policy in South Africa such as white papers on Water Supply and Sanitation, the National Public Works Programme and the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Framework.

For six years he was Project Manager of the USD 35 million World Bank and DFID-funded Municipal Financial Management Technical Assistance Project, which fielded over 30 international advisers on municipal finance, and commissioned several studies related to intergovernmental fiscal relations. He was also an adviser to the World Bank Water & Sanitation Program - Africa Region, supporting in particular the development of sanitation policies in several countries in East Africa.

Prior to joining the DBSA Mr. Jackson worked for ten years as a consulting civil engineer in London, Johannesburg, and Maseru, Lesotho, and a further eight years as a sanitation adviser in Lesotho, first with the World Bank, and later with British Aid.

Mr. Jackson was educated at the University of Oxford, where he received a Master of Arts in Engineering Science. He is a Chartered Engineer (UK), Member of Institution of Civil Engineers (UK) and Fellow of Water Institute of Southern Africa. Mr. Jackson is married and has two sons.

## **The Global Sanitation Fund**

Improved hygiene and sanitation have enormous potential to save lives, but to date there has been no global financing mechanism solely for them. To combat this problem, WSSCC formally launched the Global Sanitation Fund (GSF) on 14 March 2008 as one of its three pillars to support national efforts to help larger numbers of poor people to attain sustainable access to basic sanitation and to adopt good hygiene practices. This demand-driven programme specifically targets poor populations in developing countries that lack basic sanitation and is guided by the experience of WSSCC's National Coordinators and WASH Coalitions at the country level.

For more information, visit [www.wsscc.org](http://www.wsscc.org).

*The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) is a global membership organisation that works to improve the lives of poor people in developing countries. WSSCC enhances collaboration among water, sanitation and hygiene agencies and professionals and hence contributes to the broader goals of poverty eradication, health and environmental improvement, gender equality, and social and economic development. WSSCC was created in 1990 through a United Nations General Assembly resolution and its Secretariat is hosted by the World Health Organization. With members in more than 80 countries, WSSCC has the characteristic legitimacy and flexibility of a non-governmental organisation. Through Networking & Knowledge Management, Advocacy & Communications and the Global Sanitation Fund, WSSCC aims to be at the forefront of knowledge, debate and influence on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for all.*

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